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RCE/SP
PTO/SB/30

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant
application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number	10/040,834
Filing Date	January 7, 2002
First Named Inventor	Kazuhiro EBARA et al.
Group Art Unit	2856
Examiner Name	J. Hanley
Attorney Docket Number	36856.837

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s) reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other:
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply.
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s).
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS).
- iv. ☐ Other:

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2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for
a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other:

1. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to
Deposit Account No. 50-1353.
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17).
- iii. ☐ Other:
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed.
- c. ☒ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed).

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Christopher A. Bennett	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	46,710
Signature		Date	February 19, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop 313(c), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to 703-872-9306 of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Sonia V. McVean	Date	February 19, 2004
Signature			